

**Village of Walden
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 9, 2007**

Mayor Becky Pearson called the meeting of the Village of Walden Board of Trustees to order at 6:30PM.

On roll call the following were:

Present:	Mayor	Becky Pearson
	Deputy Mayor	Mary Ellen Matisse
	Trustees	Roy Wynkoop
		Mary Jean Norman
		Richard Hurd
		Jose DeJesus
		Edmond Leonard

Also Present:	James Politi, Village Manager
	Nancy Mitchell, Village Clerk
	Kevin Dowd, Village Attorney

Mayor Pearson stated that the last meeting in December was chaotic and she left saying that it can't go on any longer. She gave the Board a copy of Roberts Rules as it pertains to how to address people and proper etiquette. She is all for debate and discussion but she doesn't want the debate to become personal. The rules for debate call for certain formalities of speech. The most important of these in the debate is you speak as though you are talking to the chair not directly to the members. She would like that to start happening.

Trustee Hurd stated that the Board never adopted Robert's Rules because they felt they would be constrictive and they liked the informality. He suggested this go on a work session to discuss this further. The meetings are oriented like they are almost doing a stage production to the public and the reality is that the meetings are open to the public.

Trustee Leonard stated that Trustee DeJesus looked into purchasing a table that is u shaped.

Mayor Pearson stated that the Judge wanted to do something also, what would be conducive for him, because he uses the same space. You don't want something that would be permanent because sometimes you have functions and you might not want to use those tables. It has to serve many purposes. The Village Clerk also requests that the Board use the microphones.

Approval of Minutes

Deputy Mayor Matisse moved to adopt the minutes of December 12, 2006 with the following corrections: Page 3, fifth paragraph change Orange County Land Trustee to Orange County Land Trust; Page 6, thirteenth paragraph change January 18th, 2007 to January 11th, 2007; Page 9, first paragraph, change Mayor Pearson stated that she wanted to just open this open for discussion, change to Mayor Pearson stated that she just wanted to open this for discussion; Page 11, seventh paragraph, change Authorities to Authority. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Audited Bills

Trustee Hurd moved to pay the audited bills of January 9, 2007. Seconded by Trustee Wynkoop. Mayor Pearson voted yes for the bills she signed. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 11-06-07, Designating Place and Time of Annual Election

Deputy Mayor Matisse moved to adopt Resolution No. 11-06-07, Designating Place and Time of Annual Election, (attached). Seconded by Trustee DeJesus. All ayes. Resolution adopted.

Stanford Court Road Dedication Request

Mayor Pearson stated that a memo was received from the Building Inspector stating that Mr. Steinberg appeared in front of the Planning Board on December 20th with regards to the dedication of Stanford Court. By a vote of 4 ayes to 0 no's the Planning Board recommends to the Village Board that they accept dedication of Stanford Court conditioned on Kevin Dowd's review and approval of all information given to him from Mr. Steinberg.

Mr. Dowd stated that he has almost everything he needs from Mr. Steinberg. He has in his possession a letter of credit in the amount of \$21,550 drawn on Walden Federal which is a one year maintenance bond. He also has a check from Mr. Steinberg in the amount of \$5,340.64 which represents the outstanding fees that were for engineering review of this project. He has all the recording documentation and deed of Stanford Court. He had asked Mr. Steinberg to prepare a new deed for Stanford Court. He did so and when he was going through the documents he realized that instead of just attaching the metes and bounds description of the road the secretary typed in the metes and bounds description on the deed and when he reviewed it and compared against the document that his engineer had done several years ago there are some discrepancies in the metes and bounds description. He called the Village Engineer and asked if he had any change in the description that the attorney did not have. He had the same description. There are variations in the description which he has to verify and clarify. Mr. Steinberg has another check for the Village which represents the new taxes for the State, County and Town for

just the roads. He asked the Board to accept the road subject to the attorney receiving a corrected deed.

Trustee Leonard moved to accept the dedication of Stanford Court subject to the attorney receiving a corrected deed. Seconded by Trustee Wynkoop. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Dowd asked the Board to authorize the release of the performance bond in the amount of \$215,500 which is being replaced by the maintenance bond.

Trustee Hurd moved to release the performance bond for Stanford Court and to accept the maintenance bond in the amount of \$21,550. Seconded by Trustee DeJesus. All ayes. Motion carried.

Introductory Local Law I-1 of 2007, Uniform Fire Prevention & Building Code

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if there were changes made to this.

Mr. Dowd stated that the only change he made was for sheds and swimming pools not requiring stamped plans.

Trustee Hurd asked if the Village will still be in compliance with the state law.

Mr. Dowd stated yes, according to the Building Inspector who spoke to someone up at the State.

Mayor Pearson asked about Section 4, (d)-(5).

Mr. Dowd stated that there should be a section in there that says, notwithstanding.

Manager Politi stated that in Pawling they base the needs for plans on the cost of the project.

Mr. Dowd stated that could be correct under existing law, but under the suggested statute, the local law what they want the Village to pass has nothing to do with the cost. It has to do with what is required. We have had other questions and the Building Inspector would like to know if the Board has any other questions and to put them in writing and he will be at the next meeting to address them. This would give the Building Inspector some leeway where he will not require stamped plans for minor repair work such as putting a roof on or roofing material on.

Manager Politi stated that the Town of Goshen passed the law based on cost not on the project.

Mr. Dowd stated that the problem with cost factors is if you're doing something like a deck and it's a small deck it still is weight bearing. What they should do is stay

away from the cost and just look at giving the Building Inspector some discretion as to when he would require stamped plans.

Trustee Hurd asked about large sheds where print outs with architectural design are available at Home Depot.

Mr. Dowd stated that he would assume the Building Inspector could require, at his discretion, what he needs. Obviously when you build a house, commercial building or even a deck he will required stamped plans.

Trustee DeJesus stated that on Page 3, (b), appointment of the Building Inspector, it says the Building Inspector shall be appointed by the Village Manager. He asked if this was a civil service position.

Mr. Dowd stated yes.

Trustee DeJesus stated that the person would be appointed on a provisional basis, but then they must pass the exam.

Manager Politi indicated that was right.

Trustee DeJesus asked what is a solid fuel burning heating appliance, what are we referring to.

Trustee Hurd stated pellet stoves, any solid fuel.

Trustee DeJesus stated that there was an issue regarding inflatable pools requiring electricity. How will that be excluded?

Mr. Dowd stated that according to the existing law they have to have electrical inspection. You can't get a C.O. on a pool until you get the electrical inspection.

Trustee Hurd stated that even if it's an inflatable pool to a depth of 24 inches, use it for a day and then dump the water, if they are using any type of electrical device that is very dangerous.

Trustee DeJesus stated that the present requirements are still in place.

Mr. Dowd stated that the electrical code of the State is still in place. So, whatever type of pool you're using all the wiring has to be approved and signed off by an electrical inspector. A lot of these inflatable pools less than 24 inches don't require anything by the State.

Trustee DeJesus asked about stop work orders, if the Building Inspector is not available then we talked about the Engineer or the Village Manager filling in.

Manager Politi stated that if the Building Inspector is unable to serve, an individual shall be appointed by the Village Manager to serve as acting building inspector. That would be for any reason. He would turn to the engineer firm because they have building inspectors within.

Trustee DeJesus asked about the issuance of temporary certificates of occupancy, it talks about errors made in the application on the part of the applicant. Suppose the information is transcribed wrong by the building inspector or a mistake is made by the building inspector, is that applied as well.

Mr. Dowd stated that they don't expect the current building inspector to use this very often. He believes incorrect information does not necessarily mean from the applicant it could mean on the part of the building inspector that he read the zoning code incorrectly or the building code.

Trustee DeJesus stated that it doesn't read that way.

Mayor Pearson stated that the applicant should be checking too.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if Trustee DeJesus was suggesting an appeal clause in there.

Trustee DeJesus stated no.

Mr. Dowd stated that they can always appeal to the court under an Article 78.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if a third party could question the issuance of a temporary certificate.

Mr. Dowd stated yes, if they believe they are aggrieved they have the right to go to court under Article 78.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if a third party could challenge whether one was given or one was taken away.

Mr. Dowd stated that if one is given yes, if one is taken away he doesn't know where they are harmed by that.

Trustee DeJesus asked if the occupant load applied to churches, synagogues, etc.

Mr. Dowd stated yes.

Trustee DeJesus asked if Page 11, (a)-(3) applies to apartment buildings.

Mr. Dowd stated yes.

Trustee DeJesus asked about Section 15, C, proscribed should be prescribed.

Trustee Leonard stated that he asked the manager to find out what an engineering stamp costs.

Village Manager stated that the engineer advised him that it would be between \$300 and \$500.

Trustee Leonard stated that he is in favor of giving the Building Inspector discretionary over what needs the architects stamp and what doesn't.

Trustee DeJesus asked about time limits for permits. They have three months to start work, if the authorization has expired and rules have changed, that permit is subject to the new rules and regulations?

Mr. Dowd stated that if you're talking about zoning laws and you've changed the lot size and he's halfway into building the house and then his permit expires because he didn't finish it in time he would have the right to continue building. If you're talking about other statutory regulations he would be subject to the new rules.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked about inspections including village property and right of way over village property and we said we didn't want to codify it but then how would we make that a policy or procedure.

Mr. Dowd stated that he and the manager have spoke to the Building Inspector who has been authorized to purchase a camera. He will be taking photographs and keeping them with the files.

Mayor Pearson asked if street openings will be photographed before they start.

Manager Politi stated that DPW will be the one to take the pictures. He will direct them in the form of a letter to do that.

Mayor Pearson stated that under Section 10, (a)-(3), Use of Pyrotechnic devices in Assembly Occupancies, does that mean the park.

Mr. Dowd stated that it means inside, not outside.

Mayor Pearson stated that the attorney was talking about shall verses may. We should be talking about changing the shalls to mays.

Mr. Dowd stated that he would like to keep it at shall and when it comes down to that specific issue with the two sets of signed plans, leave it as it is and then expand on what he put down in the current copy which is not withstanding the requirement the building inspector has the discretion to waive that need for two sets of plans on certain applications if he deems it unnecessary.

The Board was in favor of the building inspector using his discretion.

Mr. Dowd stated he can make the one change and bring the law back for introduction at the next meeting.

Deputy Mayor Matise moved to introduce Introductory Local Law I-7 of 2007, Uniform Fire Prevention & Building Code with changes. Seconded by Trustee Hurd. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Leonard moved to hold a public hearing on Introductory Local Law I-7 of 2007, Uniform Fire Prevention & Building Code on January 23, 2007 at 6:30 P.M. Seconded by Trustee Hurd. All ayes. Motion carried.

Introductory Local Law I-2 of 2007, Townhouse Zoning District

Mr. Dowd advised the Board that at 2:30 PM today he and Alan Sorensen met with Mr. Jacobowitz and Marcia Jacobowitz regarding the local law. He pointed out some clarifications that he felt would be good to make. There are one or two issues that Mr. Jacobowitz requested that he speak to the committee about. It has to do with the separation distance between buildings and number of units per building.

Mayor Pearson stated that they've had those discussions already.

Trustee Leonard stated that he doesn't see any harm with sitting down with Mr. Jacobowitz and discussing this.

Trustee DeJesus stated that the committee heard it and now he would like to hear it.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that she would also like to hear this.

Mayor Pearson stated that she doesn't know if she will change her mind on what has already been decided.

Mr. Dowd stated that he has a specific set of drawings that he would like the committee to look at. It would be something that would allow him to put more units in a building than the code talks about. He wants to show the committee that they can be designed in such a way that they will not be offensive in any way shape or form.

Mayor Pearson stated that they are looking at this as a Village law not just for one piece of property.

Mr. Dowd stated that the existing properties they are talking about now are a one stake holder. However, the next item is a request from someone to expand into his property.

Mayor Pearson stated that he may have these plans but that doesn't mean he's going to build those plans. He could turn around and sell that property and someone could be building.

Mr. Dowd stated that he thinks it's the concept of how it could be designed to get the number of units that would be allowed in the zoning law.

Trustee Leonard stated that the Board would be better off to let him come to a meeting and listen to what he has to say, because if we don't do it now he can do it at a public hearing and that could mean more work.

Trustee Hurd stated that the Board should entertain what Mr. Jacobowitz has to say.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that he prefers to meet as a whole Board.

Mayor Pearson asked if this law goes through the way it is, he can get a variance on whatever he wants to do.

Mr. Dowd stated that he can always apply for a variance which would be a use variance and that's not going to work. The committee had a discussion about with all the time we're spending on this we want to see a project come to fruition of some sort that you can be proud of and will benefit the Village. If you put together a law that no one is going to build on because for whatever reason the builder can't make a profit or he can't sell the units because they're too small, you've wasted your time doing this. He doesn't think there would be any problem hearing Mr. Jacobowitz.

Trustee DeJesus asked about the description of family in the law. What is the legal definition of family and the fact that the Court of Appeals in Supreme Court has struck down precisely.

Mr. Dowd stated that they had this discussion with the committee and he pointed out what Trustee DeJesus gave him that that's the law. This definition of family comes from HUD and we are using HUD guidelines for the affordability issue.

Trustee DeJesus stated that the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court have both addressed these issues. Somebody could challenge the law based on that and it has been challenged. People may not apply because they see this as preventing them from applying because of the definition. If you're a foster parent and you have foster children they are not included in this definition.

Mr. Dowd stated that puts us where we were with the committee, the contradiction, the one in the law says you don't have to be related by blood or by marriage to be a family and then the other one is the HUD requirements define family this way for the purpose to determine income levels and affordability. We don't want to have two definitions of a family. He raised that same point when they discussed this in

the committee the problem is what definition we are going to use that will satisfy the measurement of affordability. He doesn't foresee the builder saying that if you're not married you can't live together.

Trustee DeJesus stated that without a change in that he will not support this.

Mr. Dowd suggested they discuss this again and see if they can come up with some other definition.

Trustee Hurd stated that there may be a nuance coming in the fact that the Supreme Court may address family in regard to overall social issues, but the definition under HUD may still be valid for determining income eligibility.

Trustee DeJesus indicated that they have to look at that definition. He will not support this if the definition does not change.

Deputy Mayor Matisse stated that one person who has the income could apply and go through the point system and the other person just happens to live there.

Mr. Dowd stated that you can't exclude the second person from the definition of family for the purpose of income levels for affordability.

Deputy Mayor Matisse stated that if they are not related by birth, marriage or adoption then they fall through the cracks.

Mr. Dowd stated that you can define household different from how you define family. There is inconsistency between funding mechanisms and zoning laws and other social issues of what constitutes a family. If you have two unmarried people living in a house as a family for zoning purposes they are a family. If you have two roommates from college living together as a family they are a family under the zoning law.

Trustee DeJesus stated that college students are not considered a family unit according to what he read. The court addressed that specifically. The issue is not a matter of social issues. The fact that you are having a family definition and also income they are two separate things.

Trustee Leonard stated that we are using HUD's median family income which is a HUD definition term so we should be using HUD's definition of family.

Deputy Mayor Matisse stated that under Section 10, you're saying a family earning between, why wouldn't you say a household earning between.

Mr. Dowd indicated that because the family definition is the HUD definition.

Trustee Hurd stated that it has to be consistent.

Mayor Pearson asked what if you put the HUD recommendation in the family definition. Put the word HUD in that.

Mr. Dowd stated that he believes that if the HUD guidelines haven't been challenged they've been sustained otherwise this would have been changed many, many years ago.

Mayor Pearson asked Mr. Dowd if he read the information Trustee DeJesus gave him.

Mr. Dowd stated that its not a definition, it says that the New York Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court have not hesitated to strike down zoning definitions of family, which are so narrowly drawn as to exclude certain family members or families which are not biologically related or a non traditional event.

Mayor Pearson suggested they put foster children in there.

Mr. Dowd suggested the Board amend the definition to say for the purposes of housing affordability standards families are defined as and then define them. He will speak to Mr. Sorensen and see what they can come up with.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that people could say they are being precluded from earning enough money on the resale of their unit. She asked if there have been any cases yet.

Mr. Dowd stated that he can't cite a case, but he's sure there have been cases because this is done in so many places on a greater scale then what the Board is talking about. He believes it's a binding contract that he believes they've been upheld.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if they would be assessed at a lower rate.

Mr. Dowd stated that they will be assessed at the value of the unit.

Mayor Pearson stated that she wants to make sure the lot numbers are correct. She would like the map out the next time the Board gets together so everyone will know where the property line is.

It was the consensus of the Board to invite Mr. Jacobowitz to the January 23rd Board Meeting.

R.J. Smith Realty Zone Change Request

Mayor Pearson asked if the information was given to Mr. Sorensen.

Manager Politi stated that he doesn't think he's made contact with R.J. Smith.

Trustee DeJesus asked if they can discuss this at the next meeting so they can have Mr. Sorensen's recommendation.

Deputy Mayor Matise moved to table the R.J. Smith Realty Zone Change Request until there is comment from Mr. Sorensen and he's at the meeting of January 23rd. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Hurd asked that the Board receive Mr. Sorensen's comments before the meeting.

Demolition of Buildings and Structures, Chapter 64 Review

Mayor Pearson stated that at the last meeting people were a little hot as to why she put this on the agenda. She put it on not just for one reason. There were two issues that she wanted to bring up on that, one being in demolition it doesn't mention anything about trees that are close to buildings. The two beautiful pine trees on Oak Street had they been closer to the house they might have been destroyed.

Trustee Hurd stated that according to the code a property owner can remove up to four trees a year without a permit.

Mayor Pearson asked if there was a size requirement on the trees.

Mr. Dowd indicated that the code reads, not to exceed four live trees per year over eight inches in diameter and four feet above ground level.

Mayor Pearson stated that the Board could change the law. She will bring that up at the next meeting.

Trustee DeJesus stated that under the issue of demolishing historic structures, we're talking about demolition delay ordinances. He was looking at a law to address those things particularly. There is also the issue of the demolition of historic structures through neglect. What happened last month is he thought there was a reaction to something that happened and he sticks to what he said back then. He was thinking of forming a committee of this Board to look at possibilities. There are a lot of demolition ordinances to look at and then prepare something for the Board to discuss.

Trustee Hurd stated that when this was discussed last time it was mentioned that there is approximately 150 historic structures in the Village and it seems to him that as you're looking at that he doesn't see why they can't identify, catalog and ask for voluntary permission to catalog and photograph.

Trustee DeJesus stated that there is a Historic American Landscape survey and they have guidelines for historical reports. He suggested the Village use that.

Mayor Pearson stated that the Village had that survey done, but it doesn't identify every historic building in the Village of Walden.

Trustee DeJesus stated that he doesn't want to get into the private sector. It's for the historical society. He's not looking to protect people who are looking to buy pieces of a building.

Trustee Hurd stated that he feels the idea he presented in practicality would preempt that because it isn't a question of waiting until a building gets to the point where it is going to be demolished. Any structure in this Village could burn. Then there really won't become an issue if eventually something has to be demolished because we will already have obtained all the records.

Trustee Norman suggested someone from the Historical Society be on the committee.

Mayor Parson indicated that they haven't been excluded.

Trustee DeJesus suggested they form a committee from the Board and then invite people from the Historical Society and Community Council and homeowners.

Deputy Mayor Matisé asked the manager to get a copy of the town's historical building survey.

Trustee DeJesus moved to form a committee of three ad hoc Board members and someone from the historical society to look at the demolition delay for structures of historical or architectural significance. Seconded by Mayor Pearson. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Hurd moved that Trustee Norman, Deputy Mayor Matisé and Mayor Pearson be appointed to the committee. Seconded by Trustee DeJesus. All ayes. Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Matisé asked about Section 64-4, a of the Village Code, Restoration of Site, no materials will be permitted as fill which will corrode, rot, decay or collapse, can that be added to Chapter 63, A.

Mr. Dowd stated that there is a definition of filling which talks about not burying garbage, trash and construction demolition debris.

Deputy Mayor Matisé stated that this type of material is what winds up causing sink holes and collapses in fill.

Mr. Dowd indicated that he will do that with direction from the Board.

Trustee Hurd stated that he feels this should be looked at because there may be ramifications they are not aware of. He suggested the manager speak to the engineer and building inspector regarding this.

Property Maintenance, Chapter 116, Dumpster Structures

Mayor Person stated that there is still the issue in the Orchard Street lot regarding dumpsters.

Manager Politi stated that he will reach out again to Sam Phelps. He was able to meet with the representative of Related Management but Mr. Phelps was not able to meet. He got Related Managements prospective, but not the other side. He would like to meet with Mr. Phelps and report back to the Board.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if the Village is enforcing the law regarding shielding dumpsters and do they want to enforce it. There are no waivers in existence. She further indicated that some of the dumpsters need to be picked up more frequently.

Manager Politi stated that if you move the dumpster you will eat up one or two parking spaces and you may not want to lose the spaces. He didn't see any obstruction of the fire escape from the dumpster. It was neat and clean.

Mayor Pearson asked when new people get C.O.'s for buildings is it mandatory they get the dumpsters enclosed.

Mr. Dowd stated that on the commercial sites as per site plan approval they are required to have enclosures.

Manager Politi stated that once they build onto the Walker Building you will lose more access to the back. The building inspector suggested they come up with a cooperative style of dumpster which may end up in the parking lot and lose a space or two to get access to it.

Trustee DeJesus asked how we can give one homeowner access to our parking lot to use for their dumpster.

Mr. Dowd stated that you create issues when you start using your parking lot for dumpsters.

Mayor Pearson stated that they questioned why it is not enforced when they were given summons and they did what they were suppose to do and fixed the problem. When someone else has a problem why isn't the law enforced. They feel its not being fair.

Manager Politi stated that there are two things tied up in the law suit, one being the parking and one being the dumpster, so there is another level.

Deputy Mayor Matisse asked if there was anything in the code about frequency of collection. She feels from June 1 until September 15 people should have their trash collected more frequently. If it's not in the code can they add that? She would also like the parks picked up twice during the summer.

Parking Enforcement Review

Mayor Pearson stated that she put this on the agenda to review the parking enforcement to see if anything needs to be changed.

Manager Politi stated that the Police Chief has information regarding this is his report.

Mayor Pearson stated that there is one major doctor's office in this area who takes care of a lot of the elderly. She heard one of the Board members say that he is moving, but she doesn't know if he wants to move. Part of the issue is the parking and whether he can get a permit or not.

Trustee Leonard stated that Dr. Guneratne is moving to the Ryan Insurance building on South Montgomery Street.

Trustee Norman stated that when she was there today the whole office personnel had to leave to move their cars.

Mayor Pearson stated that she brought this up for one reason, if it was an issue to keep the doctor here in the Village to offer him a permit.

Trustee DeJesus stated that you can't just offer it to him.

Mayor Pearson stated that she feels it's different because he is a doctor. It's a local business for the seniors.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that his employees move their cars too.

Mayor Pearson asked the Board how they feel in general about the parking. Everybody is happy and we don't have to change anything.

Manager Politi stated that he hasn't had any calls.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that the parking lot is practically empty during the day.

Parks Master Plan

Manager Politi stated that he would like to bring the parks master plan forward during the budget process. He feels it would be wise to evaluate what the Village offers

from the parks and leisure programs to see if they want to get into a capital improvement plan.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked the manager if he's heard anything from the Walden Local Development Corp.

Trustee Norman stated that they presented the Village with a check for the handicapped playground.

Trustee DeJesus stated that there is a piece of equipment that needs to be repaired.

Manager Politi stated that they will be doing repairs, but the money from the LDC will be used for a new component.

Trustee DeJesus asked how the parks master plan was going to be done.

Manager Politi stated that the Village would contract with a firm to come in who will do an assessment based on our demographics, what we should be offering our community in terms of recreation.

Trustee Hurd stated that one thing they've noticed is that there is a lot on the east side of the Village and there's very little on the west side of the Village. He suggested they expand or add to the pocket parks on the west side.

Trustee DeJesus asked if there would be a committee.

Manager Politi stated that they would go through that process.

Trustee DeJesus stated that the parks system is not that huge. To hire a company to do that we're talking about a couple of neighborhood parks and there has to be a clear framework.

Mayor Pearson indicated that they are just mentioning it. It doesn't mean they have to put out money for that plan. They can do it in house. They are just starting the conversation for the budget time frame to see what direction they want to go in.

Trustee DeJesus asked if Mr. Sorensen had any expertise in this field.

Manager Politi stated no, not in parks. He approached our own engineering firm and that expertise is not within their corporate structure.

Trustee Leonard stated that when the parks survey was done Mr. Howland came up with figures based on population and how much you should have which was standardized national figures. He would be leaning toward in house.

Deputy Mayor Matise indicated that was just a survey it's not planning future uses for your parks.

Mayor Pearson suggested numbers be put together for what it would cost for a plan to be developed.

It was the consensus of the Board to look further into a park master plan.

Trustee Hurd stated that the Village has an extensive park system, the largest he's seen anywhere. There isn't that much more space available.

Mayor Pearson asked about the recreation committee.

Trustee Norman stated that they haven't met because of the holidays. The Friends of the Walden Youth is more active. There are a lot of things you can do at Olley Park.

Trustee Hurd stated that if the public is demanding something and the Board is not aware of it, maybe that should be the first thing they pay attention to, what is going to get used and what is in demand.

Trustee DeJesus stated that you might have to use an outside firm that specializes in that. We have existing parks but on the west side there is not much except for Alfred Park.

Mayor Pearson asked that the manager get the Board some numbers and it will be back on the agenda so they can move forward.

Public Comment on Discussion Items

Anita Vandermark, 76 Highland Avenue stated that she hopes the Village looks seriously for something on the west side because the Historical Society is constantly flooded with children playing on their property. They run ramped.

Correspondence

Mayor Pearson stated that the 2007 NYCOM Legislative meeting is scheduled for February 25-27. The main day for topics and discussion is Monday, February 26. If anyone wants to go let the Village Clerk or Village Manager know.

Mayor Pearson received a letter from the Village of Unionville stating the Village of Unionville and Minisink Hose Company will be hosting their second annual golf outing at High Point Golf Club on April 20th.

Informational & Village Manager's Report

Manager Politi stated that a public notice was sent to residents on Wileman Avenue advising them that maintenance will start on the Rail Trail.

Manager Politi also stated that the appraisal report is circulating with the Board.

Manager Politi stated that Central Hudson will be giving their presentation on Thursday, January 11th regarding the relocation of their transmission line.

The Manager indicated that he did receive a letter from Mr. Sloboda tonight. It was too late for tonight's meeting so it will be on the next agenda.

Board Comments

Trustee Norman asked if the DPW Superintendent got the lettering on his truck.

Manager Politi stated yes.

Trustee Norman asked if the stop sign on Millard was put up.

Manager Politi stated that he will check.

Trustee Norman stated that there is a tree on South Street that is causing a problem with the branches. The snow carnival dance is Friday night. She has received complaints about the garbage company throwing the garbage cans.

Mayor Pearson asked that something go out in writing to the garbage company.

Trustee Hurd stated that he doesn't think they have enough crew.

Trustee Norman stated that the residents of Walden are thrilled with the fireworks and hopes that this becomes an annual event. There are people who would like to form a committee for fund raising.

Trustee Wynkoop stated that the bus stop on Route 52 by Walden Estates needs signs coming into the Village and going out of the Village.

Manager Politi stated that he has contacted the State regarding a light.

Trustee Norman asked why the crossing sign by Roosa's is now up by the Talk of the Town.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked about the parkland parcel by Walden Estates.

Manager Politi stated that the Board accepted the offer from the County and now we have to find out the cost.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if there's been anything from the State on the Cliff House.

Manager Politi stated that he made a follow up call and he hasn't heard anything.

Deputy Mayor Matise stated that there is a curb by Reardon Insurance that juts out. She asked if it could be painted with reflective paint. She also asked if the leaves have been cleaned up on Pine Street.

Manager Politi stated that he will check on the leaves.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked about the shelter agreement.

Mr. Dowd stated that he hasn't acted on this because we don't have an emergency plan yet.

Manager Politi stated that the emergency plan will be presented at the work session.

Deputy Mayor stated that she has received a request for more 30 mph signs on Ulster Avenue.

Trustee Hurd asked when the next scheduled 100% reassessment was.

Manager Politi indicated that he will find out.

Trustee Hurd stated that will have an impact on all the residences in the Village because the new construction has been carrying 100% assessment based on sale price in the current years and similar homes built prior to that are a lot less and are paying half the rate.

Mr. Dowd stated that they are supposed to reassess every three to five years. It's a very costly and time consuming thing to do.

Trustee Leonard stated that he keeps hearing complaints about speeders on S. Montgomery Street. He'd like to meet with the Village Manager and Chief. He'd like more patrols up there.

Mayor Pearson stated that the Orange County Chamber of Commerce breakfast is next Thursday. The joint board meeting is Wednesday, January 17, 2007.

Manager Politi stated that the joint board meeting might have to be pushed up until 8:00pm because of the Planning Board meeting. He will advise the Board.

Mayor Pearson asked about the Scout Cabin repairs.

Manager Politi stated that everything is getting set up.

Mayor Pearson asked about the Eagle Scout project at Wooster Grove.

Manager Politi stated that he is making a pathway around the children's playground.

Mayor Pearson stated that the Village took a parking space away from right before the bridge and she has had complaints of someone parking there and you can't see coming around the corner.

Deputy Mayor Matise asked if the gravel for the path at Woosters was going to be small enough so someone in a wheel chair could get around.

Manager Politi stated that there is a paved walk to the handicapped playground. This will be a foot path not necessarily ADA.

Executive Session

Deputy Mayor Matise moved to hold an executive session pursuant to 105-f, Small Cities Loan and h, Land Acquisition of the Public Officers Law. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Hurd moved to reconvene the regular meeting. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Matise. All ayes. Meeting reconvened.

Adjournment

Trustee Norman moved to adjourn. Seconded by Trustee Leonard. All ayes. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Mitchell
Village Clerk

